

WHIP 8 - WILDLIFE WATERING FACILITY

FOTG Practice Code 648

A. PURPOSE

The purpose of this practice is to establish a source of drinking water for wildlife.

B. PROGRAM POLICY

Apply this practice within croplands, pastures, hay lands, idle grassy areas, or woodlands where year-round surface water supplies are insufficient to meet wildlife needs.

C. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for cost share, this practice shall:

- Be the only source of surface water available for wildlife within 1,500 feet of the proposed wildlife watering facility site.
- Improve wildlife habitat benefits to an acceptable level.
- Prevent degradation of environmental benefits.
- Be maintained for the expected lifespan of the practice.
- Be included in the approved Wildlife Habitat Development Plan.

D. COST-SHARE POLICY

Eligible practice components for this practice shall be determined needed by NRCS and specified in an approved Wildlife Habitat Development Plan (WHDP). This practice shall be cost shared at a rate to meet the minimal needs of the NRCS WHDP.

Eligible Components:

Earthmoving

Minerals

Eligible Seed

Mulch

Temporary Cover

This practice has a maximum cost-share dollar limit of \$375 provided to an applicant per watering facility.

Temporary cover will be eligible under one of the following conditions: (a) determined needed until required seeds or plant stock is available; (b) needed because normal planting period for the species has passed and erosion problems may occur; (c) needed because of a soil condition such as chemical residue that will not allow establishment of cover immediately.

E. REQUIREMENTS

The following are requirements for this practice:

1. The constructed wildlife watering facility shall not be directly accessible to domestic livestock.
2. All disturbed areas shall be seeded immediately after construction activities are completed.
3. The seeded area shall not be harvested or grazed by domestic livestock for the life of the Long-Term Contract.
4. Apply the NRCS FOTG standard for Critical Area Planting for seeding of dam and spillway.

F. ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

Consider other resource and environmental concerns (e.g., cultural, wetlands, etc.) as prescribed by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other applicable laws and regulations. A TN-CPA-25 must be completed for each WHDP.

G. PRACTICE MAINTENANCE

This practice shall be maintained without additional federal cost share for the expected lifespan of the practice. Cost share shall be refunded if either of the following applies:

1. Participant destroys the cover or structure during its lifespan; or
2. The cover fails to provide the desired wildlife benefits during the life of the WHIP Contract, unless the failure is caused by circumstances beyond the participant's control.

H. TECHNICAL RESPONSIBILITY

NRCS shall have technical responsibility for this practice.

I. SPECIFICATIONS

Requirements	Temporary cover is authorized within the dugout area as well as the dam and spillway. Apply the NRCS FOTG standard for Critical Area Planting (Code 342) for seeding of dam and spillway.
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If needed, apply mulch as recommended by the FOTG conservation practice standard Code 342.

Design	Wildlife watering facility shall be constructed in accordance with standard and specifications 648 in the FOTG (minimum 1,600 square foot surface area, maximum of 4 feet deep, etc.).
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<u>Eligible Seeds or Plants</u>	<u>Seeding Rates (per acre)</u>	<u>Seeding Dates</u>
Switchgrass with	10.0 lbs.	Apr. 15-July 1
*Kobe/Korean Lespedeza	5.0 lbs.	
Switchgrass	15.0 lbs. (PLS ^{1/})	Apr. 15-July 1
Temporary Cover – Summer		
Millet, Browntop	40.0 lbs.	May 1-July 1
Millet, Foxtail	20.0 lbs.	May 1-July 1
Sudangrass	30.0 lbs.	Apr. 1-July 1
Sudan Hybrids	30.0 lbs.	Apr. 1-July 1
Temporary Cover – Winter		
Winter Wheat	1.5-2 bushels	Sept. 1-Oct. 20
Cereal Rye	1.5-2 bushels	Sept. 1-Oct. 20
Annual Ryegrass	20.0 lbs.	Aug. 15-Oct. 15

^{1/} PLS = Pure Live Seed

* Japanese millet may be substituted in wetter areas.